

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 DODE-00

CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /086 R

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PM/NPO:RTOYE ACDA/IR:AFLOYD
EA/ANP:CASQUIRE L/UNA:MMATHESON
NSC:JMARCUM IO/UNP:BOPPEL
OSD/ISA:GHARLOW
JCS:CWILMOT --
C:JKELLY S/S-MR.ORTIZ
S/P:JKALICKI

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R 301557Z OCT 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
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AMEMBASSY SUVA
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 257162

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, MARR, NZ, XP, ANZUS, UNGA

SUBJECT: 30TH UNGA: GUIDANCE ON SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR-
WEAPON-FREE ZONE (SPNWFZ)

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REFS: (A) USUN 5003; (B) USUN 5097; (C) WELLINGTON 3042;
(D) STATE 205865; (E) USUN 5289

1. FOLLOWING IS GUIDANCE FOR UNGA CONSIDERATION OF FIJI-NEW ZEALAND SPNWFZ RESOLUTION, WHICH SEEKS UNGA ENDORSEMENT OF IDEA OF ESTABLISHMENT OF A NWFZ IN SOUTH PACIFIC, INVITES STATES CONCERNED TO CONSULT ON "WAYS AND MEANS" OF ACHIEVING SUCH A ZONE, AND EXPRESSES HOPE THAT ALL STATES, PARTICULARLY NWS, WILL COOPERATE FULLY IN REALIZING OBJECTIVE. RES DOES NOT SET FORTH SCOPE OF PROPOSED ZONE.

2. SPNWFZ WOULD HAVE HARMFUL IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. SECURITY INTERESTS IF IT INVOLVED RESTRICTIONS ON INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED RIGHTS OF NAVIGATION ON AND OVER THE HIGH SEAS AND OF INNOCENT PASSAGE THROUGH TERRITORIAL SEAS OR PRECLUDED OVERFLIGHT BY AIRCRAFT OR PORT CALLS BY VESSELS CARRYING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. FIJI UNGA STATEMENT MADE SPECIAL POINT THAT SPNWFZ PROPOSERS DO NOT INTEND TO "DEPRIVE ANY STATE, AGAINST ITS WILL, OF ITS RIGHT TO FREE AND UNIMPEDED PASSAGE

IN HIGH SEAS OR RIGHT OF INNOCENT PASSAGE IN OTHER WATERS." NEW ZEALAND MIGHT MAKE SIMILAR STATEMENT IN FIRST COMMITTEE DEBATE. HOWEVER, NZ OFFICIALS HAVE PUBLICLY ENVISAGED EVENTUAL EXTENSION OF ZONE FROM LAND AREAS TO INCLUDE HIGH SEAS. WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO GONZ THAT WE COULD NOT SUPPORT SUCH A ZONE. (WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY ABSTAINED ON RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING INDIAN OCEAN AS ZONE OF PEACE ON BASIS OF OUR OPPOSITION TO ATTEMPTS BY REGIONAL STATES TO CREATE SPECIAL LEGAL REGIME FOR PART OF HIGH SEAS.)

3. WE UNDERSTAND SOVIETS AND CHINESE MAY SUPPORT RES, AND CANADA AND PROBABLY SOME OTHER NATO ALLIES WILL DO SO. CANADA HAS ALREADY INFORMED US (AND COSPONSORS) THAT IT WILL VOTE FOR RES AS PRESENTLY DRAFTED. FRANCE, ON OTHER HAND, HAS INDICATED IT "CANNOT SUPPORT" DRAFT RES. UK IS RELUCTANT TO ABSTAIN AND MAY SEEK MODIFICATION OF RES. RES IS CERTAIN TO GET WIDE NON-ALIGNED SUPPORT
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AND WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE APPROVED BY SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY.

4. ALTHOUGH NEW ZEALANDERS HAVE INDICATED UNWILLINGNESS TO MODIFY RES, DEL SHOULD INDICATE IN LOW-KEY MANNER TO COSPONSORS AND OTHERS THAT WE COULD SUPPORT RES THAT WOULD NOT IMPLY COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF NWFZ IN SOUTH PACIFIC. FOR EXAMPLE, WE COULD AGREE TO

RES THAT SIMPLY WELCOMES INITIATIVE (RATHER THAN ENDORSES IDEA OF ESTABLISHING ZONE) AND INVITES STATES CONCERNED TO CONSULT ON ISSUES INVOLVED (RATHER THAN ON WAYS AND MEANS OF ACHIEVING ZONE). RES ALONG THESE LINES WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH US READINESS TO CONSIDER NWFZ INITIATIVES WHILE RESERVING POSITION ON WHETHER WE COULD SUPPORT PARTICULAR ZONE ARRANGEMENT. WE WOULD NONETHELESS EXPECT TO MAKE APPROPRIATE EXPLANATION OF VOTE SETTING OUT U.S. CONCERNS.

5. IF COSPONSORS UNWILLING TO CHANGE RES, DEL SHOULD INFORM THEM AND OTHERS WE PLAN TO ABSTAIN ON RES IN CURRENT FORM WITH APPROPRIATE EXPLANATION OF VOTE. HOWEVER, WE WISH TO KEEP LOW PROFILE ON RES, SINCE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ACTIVE U.S. OPPOSITION COULD SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE SUPPORT FOR RES. ON CONTRARY, US OPPOSITION COULD BE EXPLOITED BY EXTREMISTS AS EVIDENCE THAT US IS UNWILLING TO GIVE SPNWFZ FAIR HEARING. DEL SHOULD ALSO BEAR IN MIND SENSITIVITY OF KOREAN ISSUE (WHICH MAY NOT BE CONCLUDED WHEN DIS-ARMAMENT DEBATE BEGINS) AND OUR DESIRE TO AVOID ACTIONS HAVING NEGATIVE IMPACT ON KOREA VOTES (INCLUDING PLENARY VOTE).

6. WHILE WE ARE PREPARED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT COSPONSORS' EXPLANATION OF SPNWFZ IDEA IN FORMAL PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION, STATEMENTS DENYING INTENTION TO IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS ON HIGH SEAS OR RIGHT OF INNOCENT PASSAGE IN OTHER WATERS WOULD NOT ADEQUATELY MEET US CONCERNS REGARDING THESE ISSUES SINCE NO NWFZ PROPONENT ARGUES THAT HIGH SEAS RESTRICTIONS CAN IN ANY CASE BE IMPOSED. OUR CONCERN IN THIS REGARD IS THAT WE DO NOT WISH TO BE PUT IN POSITION OF APPEARING TO ACKNOWLEDGE DESIRABILITY OF CONFIDENTIAL

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INCLUDING MARITIME AREAS AND CONSEQUENTLY FACE PRESSURE TO ACCEPT RESTRICTIONS VOLUNTARILY.

7. IN VIEW OF LIMA NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATION CALLING FOR CREATION OF A "SOUTH PACIFIC PEACEFUL COOPERATION AND PEACE ZONE" AND INDICATIONS THAT SOME NON-ALIGNED CONSIDER PRESENT SPNWFZ RES TOO MODERATE, DEL SHOULD REPORT ANY INDICATIONS OF POSSIBLE NON-ALIGNED AMENDMENTS TO SPNWFZ INITIATIVE OR SEPARATE RES ON SOUTH PACIFIC, PERHAPS ALONG LINES OF INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE CONCEPT. INGERSOLL

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